

DISTRICT COURT (THIRD DISTRICT : SALT LAKE COUNTY) [1688]

CORONERS' INQUEST CASE FILES, 1870-1871; 1886-1937

5 microfilm reels

DESCRIPTION: Inquests, or hearings, were to be held on the bodies of persons who were supposed to have died by unlawful means to determine the cause of death and whether or not it was felonious. In practice, this also included inquests on those individuals whose deaths may have been natural, but where the cause was not certain. These files contain the results of those inquests from various precincts around the county.

Prior to 1896, the records were created in the county coroner's office, and occasionally in a precinct court. After 1896 the position of coroner was abolished and the records were created in various precinct courts of Salt Lake County: City Court (combining precincts within Salt Lake City), Salt Lake City Precinct and other numbered precincts within the city (later part of the City Court), 1st Precinct, 2nd Precinct, 3rd Precinct, 4th Precinct (Magna), 6th Precinct, 10th Precinct (Bingham), 11th Precinct (Murray). For safekeeping, papers were filed with the probate court until 1896 and thereafter with the district court for the county.

Until the turn of the century, each file rarely contained a complete transcript of the hearing. It usually contained a copy of the verdict, any subpoena of witnesses, and a venire (warrant to the sheriff to summon jurors). Record of the coroner's determination of cause of death in those instances where an inquest was deemed unnecessary is also included.

By about 1915, each file regularly contains a copy of the transcript of the inquest providing the date and location of the hearing, the names of the officials present, a complete copy of the testimony of the witnesses under questioning by the county attorney, a copy of the verdict, and a certification by the stenographer that the typed transcript was complete and accurate. The file also normally contains a batch of related papers which include a certified, typed one

page summary of the hearing and the conclusions; a copy of the verdict signed by all three jurors; a venire; and subpoenas of witnesses. Occasionally exhibits in the case are included: photos, diagrams, toxicology reports, etc.

ARRANGEMENT: The files were initially arranged by filing date. By 1916, the files begin to be numbered. (N.B.: These are file numbers, not case numbers.) In those instances where there was no file number, the files have been inserted by date. Files which were located after initial processing are spliced at the beginning of the appropriate roll.

RELATED RECORDS: An INQUEST REGISTER, Series 4886, kept by the 5th Precinct within Salt Lake City from 1898-1902 records a summary of proceedings for some of these cases. Similar INQUEST REGISTERS from the Salt Lake City Court from 1909-1965 are in Series 2245.

PROCESSING NOTE: Archivaly processed by A.C. Cone in 1990. Still lethal quantities of strychnine sulphate (two vials) included as exhibits in a case were returned to the Medical Examiner's office for disposal at the toxic waste dump near Tooele. The series was microfilmed in 1991 with the original papers discarded. The box/folder identification was retained in the container list to help locate particular files on the film. Files found years after initial processing were filmed and spliced at the beginning of the appropriate reel.

PREFERRED CITATION: Cite the Utah State Archives and Records Service, the creating agency name, the series title, and the series number.

GAPS IN THE SERIES: Sometimes the transcript or the related papers will be missing from a file, rarely because they were assigned separate file numbers. Aliases also resulted in occasional separated files. Not all the expected files are present. There are none before 1870, between 1871 and 1886, or after 1937, although inquests were presumably held before 1870 and up to the creation of a state Medical Examiner's Office in 1965. There are also missing years: 1887, 1894, 1931-1932, 1934-1936; and some years may have few cases filed. Files 59, 65, 122, and 126 were also noted missing at time of processing. Files found after initial processing were spliced at the beginning of the appropriate reel. These late filmings will not be in strict chronological or numerical order.

CONTAINER LIST

Reel	Box	Folder	Description
1	n/a	n/a	Misc. Later Additions, incl. Coroner's Report
1	1	1	1870; 1871; 1886; 1888

Reel	Box	Folder	Description
1	1	2	1889-1890
1	1	3	Jan 1891
1	1	4	Feb 1891
1	1	5	Mar 1891
1	1	6	May and June 1891
1	1	7	July 1891
1	1	8	Sept 1891
1	1	9	Nov 1891
1	1	10	Dec 1891
1	1	11	Jan 1892
1	1	12	Feb 1892
1	1	13	Apr 1892
1	1	14	July 1892
1	1	15	Aug 1892
1	1	16	Sept 1892
1	1	17	Nov 1892
1	1	18	Dec 1892
1	1	19	Jan-Feb 1893
1	1	20	Mar-Apr 1893
1	1	21	May-June 1893
1	1	22	Jan-Feb 1895
1	1	23	Apr-May 1895
1	1	24	June 1895
1	1	25	Aug 1895
1	1	26	Sept-Oct 1895
1	1	27	Nov-Dec 1895
1	1	28	1896
1	1	29	1897
1	1	30	1898
1	1	31	1899
1	1	32	1900
1	1	33	1901
1	1	34	1902
1	1	35	1904
1	1	36	1905
1	1	37	1909
1	1	38	1910
1	1	39	1911
1	1	40	1912-Mar 1913
1	1	41	May -June 1913
1	1	42	July-Dec 1913
1	1	43	1914
1	1	44	1915
2	2	1	File 1, Oct 19, 1916
2	2	2	File 2, Apr 23 and May 22, 1916
2	2	3	File 3, Mar 2, 1916
2	2	4	File 4, May 22, 1917
2	2	5	File 5, Nov ? and Dec 30, 1916

Reel	Box	Folder	Description
2	2	6	File 6, May 1916
2	2	7	File 7, Dec 27, 1916
2	2	8	File 8, Mar 10, 1916
2	2	9	--, Apr, 1917
2	2	10	File 9, Apr 21, 1917
2	2	11	File 10, June 9, 1917
2	2	12	File 11, Jan 2, 1917
2	2	13	File 12, Dec 27, 1916
2	2	14	File 13a, Dec 30, 1916
2	2	15	File 14, Nov 1, 1917
2	2	16	File 15, Dec 30, 1916
2	2	17	File 16, Jan 2, 1917
2	2	18	File 17, Dec 27, 1916
2	2	19	File 18, Jan 7, 1918
2	2	20	File 19, Jan 7, 1918
2	2	21	File 20, Nov 19, 1918
2	2	22	File 21, Dec 2, 1918
2	2	23	File 22, Dec 13, 1918
2	2	24	File 23, July 29, 1919
2	2	25	File 24, Oct 2, 1919
2	2	26	--, Oct 15, 1919
2	2	27	File 25, Mar 25, 1920
2	2	28	File 26, May 5, 1920
2	2	29	File 27, May 5, 1920
2	2	30	File 28, May 5, 1920
2	2	31	File 29, July 15, 1920 and Nov 26, 1920
2	2	32	File 30, July 19, 1920 and Nov 26, 1920
2	2	33	File 31, July 19, 1920 and Nov 26, 1920
2	2	34	File 32, July 19, 1920 and Nov 26, 1920
2	2	35	File 33, Sept 8, 1920
2	2	36	File 34, Sept 17, 1920
2	2	37	File 35, Nov 22 and 26, 1920
2	2	38	--, Dec 28, 1920
2	2	39	--, Dec 9 and 28, 1920
2	2	40	--, Mar 25, 1921
2	2	41	--, Mar 25, 1921
2	2	42	--, Feb 14 and Mar 25, 1921
2	2	43	--, June 11, 1921
2	2	44	File 36, Sept 19, 1921
2	2	45	File 37, Sept 27, 1921
2	2	46	File 38, Nov 30, 1921
2	2	47	File 39, Mar 25, 1921
2	2	48	File 40, Dec 30, 1921
3	3	1	File 41; Jan 16, 1922

Reel	Box	Folder	Description
3	3	2	File 42; Jan 16, 1922
3	3	3	File 43; Jan 16, 1922
3	3	4	File 44; Jan 17, 1922
3	3	5	File 45; Jan 22, 1922
3	3	6	File 46; Feb 3, 1922
3	3	7	File 47; Mar 1, 1922
3	3	8	--, April 12, 1922
3	3	9	File 48; Apr 12, 1922
3	3	10	File 49; Apr 19, 1922
3	3	11	File 50; May 27, 1922
3	3	12	File 51; July 25, 1922
3	3	13	File 52; Aug 11, 1922
3	3	14	File 53; nd
3	3	15	File 54; Aug 14, 1922
3	3	16	File 55; Oct 6, 1922
3	3	17	File 56; Dec 2, 1922
3	3	18	File 57; Dec 21, 1922
3	3	19	File 58; Dec 14, 1922
3	3	20	File 60; Dec 28, 1922
3	3	21	File 61; Jan 22, 1923
3	3	22	File 62; Apr 19, 1923
3	3	23	File 63; June 11, 1923
3	3	24	File 64; July 18, 1923
3	3	25	--, ca Sept 1, 1923
3	3	26	File 66; Oct 9, 1923
3	3	27	File 67; nd
3	3	28	File 68; nd
3	3	29	File 69; nd
3	3	30	File 70; Jan 31, 1924
4	4	1	File 71; Feb 11, 1924
4	4	2	File 72; nd
4	4	3	File 73; nd
4	4	4	File 74; May 8, 1924
4	4	5	File 75; nd (cf File 66)
4	4	6	File 76; Apr 12, 1924
4	4	7	File 77; Apr 24, 1924
4	4	8	File 78; May 5, 1924
4	4	9	File 79; nd
4	4	10	File 80; Aug 8, 1924
4	4	11	File 81; Aug 1, 1924
4	4	12	File 82; Aug 5, 1924
4	4	13	File 83; Aug 5, 1924
4	4	14	File 84; June 8, 1925
4	4	15	File 85; Oct 14, 1924
4	4	16	File 86; Nov 7, 1924
4	4	17	File 87; Dec 5, 1924
4	4	18	File 88; Dec 5, 1924
4	4	19	File 89; June 8, 1925

Reel	Box	Folder	Description
4	4	20	File 90; Jan 3, 1925
4	4	21	File 91; June 8, 1925
4	4	22	File 92; June 8, 1925
4	4	23	File 93; June 8, 1925
4	4	24	File 94; nd
4	4	25	File 95; June 12, 1925
4	4	26	File 96; June 26, 1925
4	4	27	File 97; nd
4	4	28	File 98; July 14, 1925
4	4	29	File 99; July 17, 1925
4	4	30	File 100; Aug 21, 1925
4	4	31	File 101; nd
4	4	32	File 102; nd
4	4	33	File 103; nd
4	4	34	--, ca Sept 1925
4	4	35	File 104; nd
4	4	36	File 105; Dec 9, 1925
4	4	37	File 106; Dec 18, 1925
4	4	38	File 107; nd
4	4	39	File 108; Jan 18, 1926
4	4	40	File 109; Mar 26, 1926
5	5	1	File 110; Mar 26, 31, 1926
5	5	2	File 111; Mar 30, 1926
5	5	3	--, May 27, 1926
5	5	4	File 112; Aug 19, 1926
5	5	5	File 113; Sept 22 and Oct 14, 1926
5	5	6	File 114; Oct 20, 1926
5	5	7	File 115; Jan 11, 1927
5	5	8	File 116; Apr 2, 1927
5	5	9	File 117; July 20, 1927
5	5	10	File 118; July 20, 1927
5	5	11	--, July 26, 1927
5	5	12	File 119; Aug 3, 1927
5	5	13	--Sept 28, 1927
5	5	14	File 120; nd
5	5	15	File 121; Nov 2, 1927
5	5	16	File 123; nd
5	5	17	File 124; Sept 20, 1927
5	5	18	--, Dec 31, 1927
5	5	19	File 125; Jan 20, 1928
5	5	20	--, Apr 4, 1928
5	5	21	File 127; Aug 23, 1928
5	5	22	Joe Carter, ca Sept 1928
5	5	23	File 128; Oct 30, 1928
5	5	24	File 129; Dec 10, 1928
5	5	25	File 130; Jan 5, 1929
5	5	26	File 131; Jan 8, 1929
5	5	27	File 132; Jan 8, 1929

Reel	Box	Folder	Description
5	5	28	File 133; Jan 8, 1929
5	5	29	File 134; Apr 4, 1929
5	5	30	File 135; Apr 30, 1929
5	5	31	File 136; Sept 5, 1929
5	5	32	File 137; Nov 6, 1929
5	5	33	File 138; Oct 31, 1929
5	5	34	File 139; Nov 26, 1929
5	5	35	File 140; May 31, 1930
5	5	36	File 141; July 28, 1930
5	5	37	File 142; Aug 20, 1930
5	5	38	File 143; Aug 5, 1929
5	5	39	File 144; Aug 5, 1929
5	5	40	File 145; nd
5	5	41	File 146; Sept 22, 1930
5	5	42	File 147; Nov 24, 1930
5	5	43	File 148; Nov 24, 1930
5	5	44	File 149; Dec 1, 1930
5	5	45	File 150; Sept 6, 1933
5	5	46	File 151; Apr 20, 1937